

Resources for School Gardening Activities and Supplies

Website Resources for Gardens

www.kidsgardening.org

The award winning National Gardening Association's website offers a wealth of information for parents and teachers. "Digging Deeper" offers a Parent's Primer, classroom stories, gardening activities, and kids gardening FAQ's. The online store features children's gardening supplies for home or school. The Teacher's Room page offers classroom stories, activities, and advice.

www.vivagarden.com

This site offers herb and vegetable cultural information, ideas, tips, recipes, containers, and FAQ's. Their link with NGA provides information on growing herbs and vegetables with an emphasis on gardening for children.

www.cfaitc.org

The California Foundation for Agriculture in the Classroom works with K-12 teachers and students to enhance education using agricultural examples. Their website offers lesson plans, student activities, resources, and a calendar of events to highlight the importance of agriculture in our daily lives.

www.ahs.org

At the American Horticultural Society connects you to great gardens around the world, gardening education for all levels of skill, sources of information on any garden subject imaginable, a community of gardeners eager to share their experiences, other great gardening events and activities, and much, much more.

www.mastergardenerssandiego.org

The Master Gardener Association of San Diego County School Garden Committee encourages and assists teachers in starting and maintaining gardens at their respective schools. Today, our membership has over 60 Master Gardeners who will act as school consultants in their geographic residential areas. These Master Gardeners work with teachers and parents to advise and assist children with their garden projects. Submit a request for a school garden consultation.

www.mastergardenerssandiego.org/plantaseed/index.html

This web guide was developed by the Master Gardener Association of San Diego County. This interactive, online resource guide offers information on getting a garden started, selecting the garden site, garden design, accessibility, weeds, building the beds, soil management, composting, planting the garden, specialty gardens, specialty structures, pests & disease management, integrating the garden into your curriculum, maintenance, and school garden references.

Resources for Gardening Supplies

Seeds:

America the Beautiful Fund

<http://www.america-the-beautiful.org/>

A non-profit group receives seed donations from major seed companies. Sets of 50 packets of vegetables, flowers and herbs are available for the cost of postage and handling.

Compost and Vermicomposting:

Only certain species of worms (red wigglers or manure worms) can be used to digest decomposing material. They are not the usual earthworms. The earthworms usually found in garden soil are long lived, but do not multiply fast enough to use in a worm bin.

- *Solana Center*
<http://www.solanacenter.org/1county.htm>
Free compost and worm bins for schools, compost demonstrations sites, and gardening workshops for School Gardens in San Diego's Unincorporated County.
- *Sharon's Worm World, Ramona, CA* (760) 788-4423
Specializing in quality organically grown earthworms and castings for your garden, plants, lawns, fruit trees, and composting. Products available include a bag of worms, worm beds, and vermicomposting bins.
- *Vermicoast, Carlsbad, CA* (760) 434-4223
shelleyvermicoast@adelphia.net
Red wiggler worms & worm castings available for sale.
- www.ProjectCompost.ucdavis.edu
- *El Corazon, North County Compost*
- 300 1/2 Mission Blvd. Oceanside, CA 92054
- (760) 439-9920
May give free compost to school gardens. In most cases, you have to pick it up.

Containers:

- Ask your students to collect empty milk cartons, water bottles, etc. to be used as small garden containers. A variety of sizes can be used.
- Contact your local nursery or landscape company for donations of new/used 1-gallon or 5-gallon plant containers.

Butterfly Resources:

- National Wildlife Federation –
Attracting Butterflies: <http://www.nwf.org/backyard/butterflies.cfm>